



## **Minutes Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission Community Service Project Subcommittee May 21, 2015**

**Minutes of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Commission Community Service Project Subcommittee held on May 21, 2015 5:30 p.m., at the Tempe, Public Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Tempe, Arizona.**

**MEMBERS Present:** Alexis Blanc and Andrea Lara-Garcia.

**MEMBERS Absent:** Jason George, Sophia Gonzalez, Zaria Guignard, Chris Moffitt.

**City Staff Present:** Lily Villa .

**Guests Present:** Greg Dicharry, Lacy Kendrick, Elijah Lucas, and Maria Rodriguez.

### **Agenda Item 1 – Call Meeting To Order/Introductions**

**Lily Villa, MYAC Advisor** called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

### **Agenda Item 2 – Consideration of the Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2015**

The group silently reviewed the minutes from the April 21, 2015 meeting. The May 21<sup>st</sup> meeting is the first official subcommittee meeting, so an agenda and minutes from the last meeting were not posted or approved.

### **Agenda Item 3 – Announcements**

**Maria Rodriguez** and **Lacy Kendrick** informed the group that they had just returned from the 2015 Congressional Foster Youth Shadow Experience. During this event, **Maria** was able to talk with a United States Congressman's policy director about issues affecting Foster Care youth. Everyone agreed that this connection could be very helpful in advancing our project's efforts on a national level.

### **Agenda Item 4 – Project Review**

**Lily** reviewed the notes from the last meeting with the group to ensure that everyone understood what the subcommittee is going to accomplish.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Project Planning**

- 1) The subcommittee members determined they will focus their efforts on educating teachers in Tempe Union high schools about the experiences of foster care youth.
- 2) This effort will accomplish the following objectives:

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- Assist teachers in understanding how to best support foster care youth in their classrooms.
  - Decrease stigmas that often result in lower expectations and fewer opportunities for foster care youth to succeed academically.
  - Lower drop-out rates among foster care youth in Tempe.
  - Decrease stress levels for foster care youth in Tempe.
  - Decrease suicide rates among Tempe foster care youth.
  - Create more successful schools in Tempe.
- 3) The group determined that they have the following resources to accomplish these objectives:
- Tempe Mayor and City of Tempe Council
  - School Superintendents
  - Tempe Union High School District Governing Board
  - Tempe Union High School Administrators (principals, assistant principals, office staff, etc.)
  - High school student councils
  - Tempe student leaders
  - City of Tempe staff members
  - Arizona state representatives
  - MY LIFE Presenters
- 4) The subcommittee will aim to present to Tempe teachers by the beginning of the 2015-2016 school year during teacher in-service trainings.
- 5) During the summer of 2015, subcommittee members will:
- Gain community support for this effort
  - Develop curriculum for presentations
  - Present this information to the Tempe Union High School District Governing Board

**Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items**

- Elect Community Service Project Chair
- Community Service Project Timeline
- Community Service Project Action Plan

The Commission's next meeting will be **TBA**.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.**

Prepared by: Lily Villa

Reviewed by: Kim Bauman

